

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN BREAK IN RIO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD DECEMBER 11, 2019 -- NOON

Crews worked during the overnight hours removing overflow from the area affected by a 54-inch sewer main break, located on Ponce de Leon Drive between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way in the Rio Vista neighborhood. A significant portion of the street has been cleared and as many as 16 trucks will continue to transport overflow from the area to the G.T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant. Currently, the overflow is not a threat to homes or properties in the area.

A plan is being implemented to prevent the flow from entering the Tarpon River. Crews are building a berm that will surround the immediate area of the pipe break to contain the flow. Once the berm is completed, pumps and hoses will be connected to transport the flow from the contained area into a nearby manhole which will then carry it to the G.T. Lohmeyer plant.

A contractor has begun initial digging activities to assess the specific type, size and measurements of the pipe so that the proper parts and equipment can be brought in to make the repair. The preferred repair strategy will be to install a bypass around the damaged section of the pipe. This process is expected to take 5-7 days as parts will need to be manufactured to specific dimensions for the repair.

Additional protective measures are being put in place in the immediate area of the break, so that when the pipe break is exposed, the area will be protected to guard against a ground collapse or rupture.

An environmental contractor will be on site today to begin initial disinfection and cleanup work in the affected area.

Ponce de Leon Drive will remain closed between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way while the work continues.

A precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities is in place for the waterways surrounding and adjacent to the affected area. To view a map of the impacted area, please visit http://bit.ly/2LLTeNb.

To view this information online, visit http://bit.ly/2rBJhLk.

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